

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXII, NUMBER 3

AUGUST 2004

August 28 - 29

10th Annual Carson City Mint Coin Show Ready

The Carson City Mint Coin Show at the Nevada State Museum will occur August 28 and 29 this year. The show is usually held in September, but due to conflicting coin shows, the date was changed to accommodate our returning coin dealers.

This year's show is expected to be even bigger than last year. We are expecting over 5,000 people! The show will have a total of 46 tables, and I am happy to report that all tables have been sold! Tables range from \$100 to \$300 and bring in \$7,800. All the dealers buy, sell and trade coins, and most of the dealers offer free appraisals. So, bring in your coins, you just may be sitting on a treasure.

The raffle prizes are amazing this year! The coin dealers really support the event and many have donated many of the prizes. They include a framed picture of the Carson City U.S. Mint with a "CC" mint mark Morgan Silver Dollar, donated by Rusty and Marie Goe of Southgate Coins, and two "CC" mint mark silver medallions; an 1881 "CC" five dollar gold coin donated by Allen Rowe of Northern Nevada Coin; a men's coin watch; a women's coin gold watch; and finally a silver certificate donated by A. Jacobs of Carson Valley Currency & Coin, Inc. Raffle tickets are on sale at the admissions desk at the Nevada State Museum for \$1 each or six tickets for \$5. Don't miss out on the chance to win one of these great prizes. You need not be present to win.

The coin show has many returning sponsors this year. Mission Industries will again sponsor the show by providing tablecloths for the dealers; the Carson Nugget will provide host beverages; and the Maverick Lions Club will again have a booth serving food and beverages. The Friends of the Museum will be selling water and chocolate coins. We have picked up eBay as a sponsor this year. Troy Thoreson of Auc Pro, Inc. has created a great webpage for the coin show on eBay. We hope to pick up International Game Technology again and a few new sponsors. There will also be gold panning again this year.

Special thanks to the staff and the Friends of the Nevada State Museum for making this annual event such a success!! We look forward to seeing all of you at the show!

For more information on the coin show or if you are interested in volunteering to help, please contact Kathi Baker at 775-687-4810, ext. 222, or email: kjbaker@clan.lib.nv.us.

September 11

Governor's Tin Cup Tea and Chuck Wagon BBQ

Eight hundred people are expected to attend the Governor's Tin Cup Tea & Chuck Wagon BBQ this year. The fund-raiser will be held on September 11 at the Governor's Mansion from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Last year over seven hundred people attended the event. The cost is \$45 per person and western attire is encouraged.

Governor Kenny Guinn and First Lady Dema Guinn host this event in celebration of Nevada's western heritage. This fifth annual event is a benefit for two of northern Nevada's important cultural institutions, the Nevada State Museum, Department of Cultural Affairs, and the W.M. Keck Earth Science and Mineral Engineering Museum at the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno.

The event will feature tours of the Governor's Mansion, allowing guests the opportunity to view the Mackay Tiffany Silver, historic fashions, wagons and buggies, and Nevada mineral and fossil specimens. Come and enjoy the western BBQ provided by Boomtown Hotel & Casino, take pleasure in libations, bid on the silent auction, watch the Guns & Gals of old Virginia City, and dance to the music of David John and the Comstock Cowboys, sponsored by Placer Dome America!

This year's event has many sponsors and individuals providing invaluable support: Governor Kenny Guinn and First Lady Demma Guinn; Atlantis Casino Resort; Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.; Bear Industries; Capital Beverages; Mrs. Madeleine Chiappero; Bob Kendall; Kinross Gold USA, Inc.; Nevada Mining Association and its member companies; Newmont Mining Corporation; Annaliese and Kirk Odenrantz; Starbucks; Jim and Colleen Taranik.

The Friends of the Nevada State Museum are providing volunteers for the event. If you are interested in volunteering, wish to donate a silent auction item, or need more information regarding the event, please contact Kathi Baker at 687-4810, ext. 222 or email: kjbaker@clan.lib.nv.us.

Editor's Note: These two articles were written by the chairperson of both events, Kathi Baker, a very busy lady during the past month.

Two Great Events For Your Enjoyment and Pleasure



The *Nevada State Museum Newsletter* is published quarterly in February, May, August and November by the NSM Friends, for the benefit of museum members. This issue edited by Jack Gibson. Printed by Capitol City Press, Carson City. Please address all communications to Newsletter, Nevada State Museum, 600 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701.

The museum is an agency of the

State of Nevada

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Governor

Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs

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Nevada State Museum

Jim Barmore

Museum Director

Become a member and support the Nevada State Museum. Membership includes free admission to all seven state museums, a 15% discount in all museum stores, the *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*, newsletters, and selected invitations to exhibit openings, educational programs, and events.

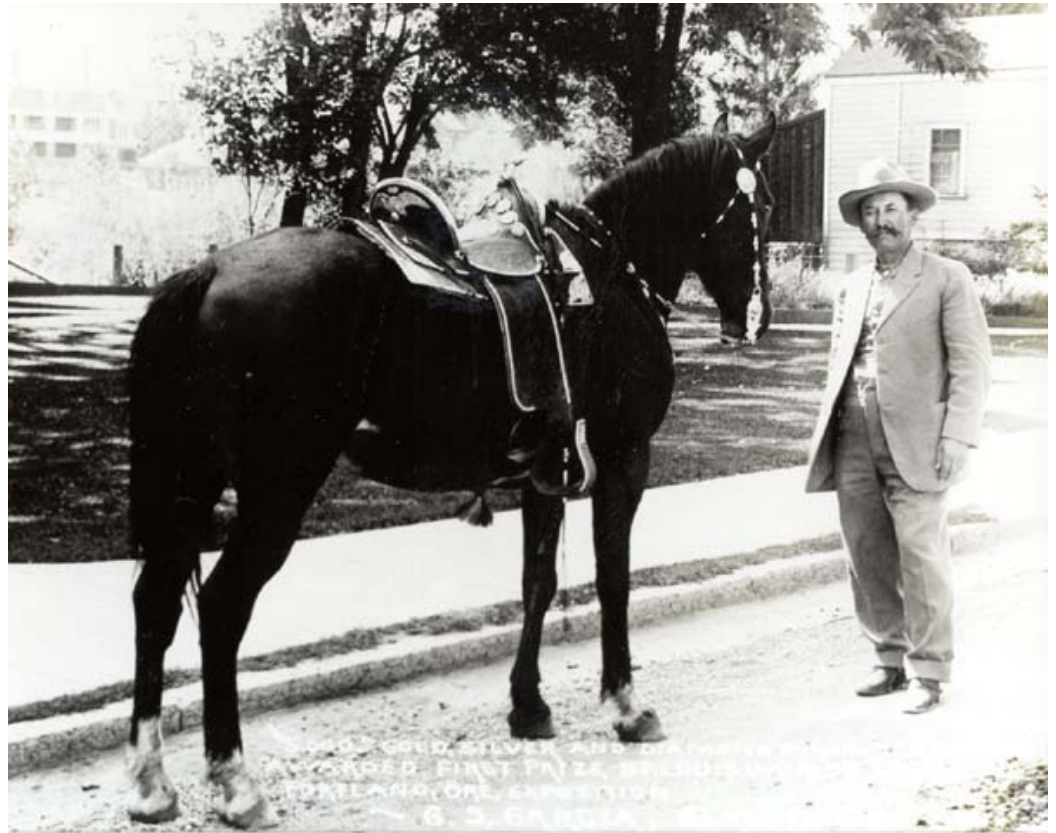
- Individual \$35
- Family \$50
- Sustaining \$100
- Contributing \$250
- Patron \$500
- Benefactor \$1000

• For seniors who simply want free admission and a 15% discount and not the *Nevada Historical Society Quarterly*, a special senior membership is available at only ... \$20

Other facilities included in your membership are:

- Nevada State Historical Society, Reno
 - Nevada State Museum & Historical Society, Las Vegas
 - Lost City Museum, Overton
 - Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
 - Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
 - East Ely Railroad Depot Museum
- www.NevadaCulture.org

Views of the Past . . .



G.S. Garcia Saddle Turns 100

The G.S. Garcia World's Fair Saddle on display in the History Gallery turns 100 years old this year. Garcia operated a saddle shop in Elko. The World's Fair Saddle is the most famous of all his works. Made in 1904, the saddle won a gold medal at the world's Fair in St. Louis. The next year, the saddler won another gold medal at the Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland, Oregon. It is the only saddle to win both awards.

In order to build the saddle for the fair, Garcia increased his staff from twelve to twenty. Ahead of his time, Garcia included a woman engraver on the staff. It was unusual in that day for a woman to be working in a saddle shop. Garcia, however, hired craftsmen strictly for their abilities.

Garcia used only top quality materials for the saddle. The saddle was dyed black and carved with American Beauty roses design. It was encrusted with gold and silver. Across the rear of the fork are twenty dollar gold pieces depicting President Theodore Roosevelt and Nevada Governors John Sparks and James W. Nye. Other gold pieces are carved with the famous three fairy horse

heads. A large intricately engraved silver eagle is set into the back of the cantle.

Historian Griff Durham wrote in **Everything For The Vaquero: The Legacy of G.S. Garcia** catalog: "His World's Fair Saddle made his shop and Elko famous worldwide. More than any other of his many accomplishments, this superb outfit conceived of and begun a century ago established Guadalupe Garcia's position in his community, his trade and the world at large. It was a true tour de force, a remarkable demonstration of the artistic capabilities of the man and the crew of craftsmen he had assembled. For more than a quarter century it was in demand for use at celebrations and affairs of state, and Garcia used its image, and those of the medals it won, prodigiously, on catalog covers, calendars, postcards and in newspaper advertisement."

After Garcia's death the saddle remained in the Garcia family. It was put on exhibit at the Nevada State Museum in 1976, and through fund raising efforts the saddle became a permanent part of the museum's collection.

Archaeological Awareness Week at Nevada State Museum



On Saturday, July 8, the celebration of the opening of Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Week saw Paiute/Shoshone Mike Williams demonstrating making tule duck decoys and an egg basket.



On Monday through Saturday tours were conducted twice daily in the basement of the museum to show some of the Indian artifacts in the museum's large collection. Here, Gene Hattori, Curator of Anthropology, is explaining to those attending on this tour about the baskets they will soon be seeing. In the photo below they are in the vault and just look at the baskets!—Photos by Newsletter staff



Meet the Anthro Intern



—Staff Photo

KATHRYNE HOLDEN

Kathyne Holden (she prefers to be called Kathy) started working as an intern in the Anthropology program on January 12, 2004. Kathy comes to us from the Museology Certification Program at Cal State Chico.

She has a background in banking, but after retirement decided to go back to school to study anthropology and museology. She also has nearly completed a Cultural Resource Management Certificate and an Archaeology Certificate from UCLA. At Chico she's taken a number of museum management classes, as well as some in museum conservation techniques.

She's already making great headway inventorying and rehousing one of the more significant collections in Anthropology — a project that was begun by Rachel Delovio, who had to leave before it was completed. Kathy's a great addition to the Anthropology program and on behalf of the Nevada State Museum staff and members, we welcome her!

Stewart Pow-Wow

By Anthropology Staff

The Anthropology Program and the new Curator of Education participated in the Father's Day Pow Wow at Stewart Indian School, June 18-20. The museum provided an opportunity, and a place in the shade, for Stewart Alumni to look through our collection of school and student photographs from the early part of the 1900s through the 1970s. Many alumni found old friends, and some even found themselves in the photos! They also helped us by identifying people in the photographs, and we provided them an opportunity to reflect on their time at Stewart with other Alumni—generally accompanied by a lot of laughter. The Stewart Alumni Association and the Nevada Indian Commission are raising funds at the Pow Wow and other events to allow the Indian Commission to reopen the Stewart Indian School Museum. NSM and the Division of Museums and History's Stewart Museum committee are currently assisting the Indian Commission in their efforts. We are also storing the Bureau of Indian Affairs Stewart Indian School collection until the Stewart Museum reopens.

The Museum . . .

What's New in Education? Something for Everyone

By DEBORAH STEVENSON
Curator of Education

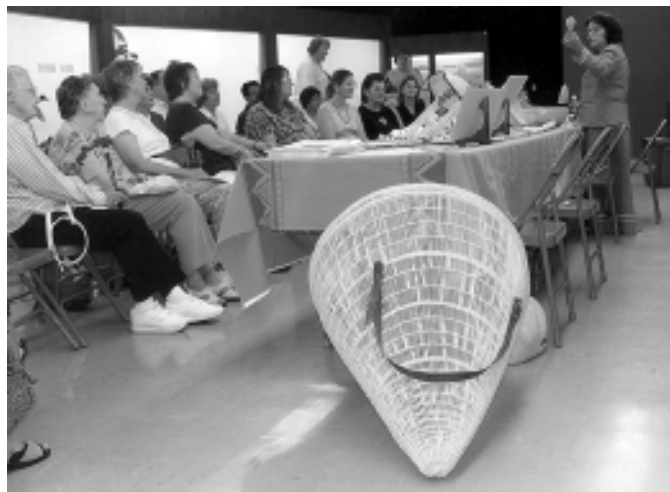
The Nevada State Museum provides fertile ground for growing a quality education program. Staff members provide seeds of knowledge and experience, while volunteers and Friends bring enthusiasm, energy and talent to cultivate and inspire new growth. With ample training, we need not doubt the harvest. This fall, when the school children arrive thirsty for memorable experiences, the tour guides (docents) will be ready.

An understanding of Freeman Tilden's "Principles of Interpretation" is fundamental to the tour guide training program. Guides quickly learn that one does not have to be a "walking encyclopedia" to be a good museum interpreter. The most important quality is enthusiasm. Inspiring curiosity is more valuable than information overload. A good tour guide knows how to relate the object on exhibit to something within the visitor's realm of experience. There is great joy in re-discovering universal truths.

Recent tour guide training focused on *Under One Sky*, Nevada's Native American heritage exhibit. A team of Friends worked with the Curator of Education to develop an in-depth adult tour and a children's tour for a target audience of fourth graders. The children's tour is linked to the curriculum and includes a "hands-on" component using the docent discovery cart. The cart includes a matching game, weaving demonstration, and artifacts made by local Native American artists Sue Coleman and Mike Williams. The teacher's guide includes themes, goals and objectives, vocabulary list, and background information, procedure, references, and follow-up activities. Planning this program was lots of fun!

The Native American cultural presentations, which complement *Under One Sky*, have been a great success. On June 19, Sue Coleman painted a comprehensive picture of Washo life in the Carson Valley in the 1950s. Drawing upon childhood memories, Sue fondly recalled being included in all aspects of family life, such as fishing, collecting medicinal plants, grinding acorns and pinenuts into flour, and observing her female relatives making baskets from willows, bracken fern and redbud. Speaking from the heart, Sue clearly conveyed the message that basketweaving is not a craft, but a way of life that is inextricably linked to all other aspects of Washo culture. Thanks to Sue Coleman's dedication to the art of basketweaving, this important part of Washo life will be interwoven into the lives of generations to come.

Besides Sue Coleman, other Native Americans from northern Nevada have helped keep *Under One Sky* in the public eye, through lively and informative presentations. Mike Williams, Paiute/Shoshone, demonstrated how to make a tule duck and a tule egg bag. Singer and storyteller Marlin Thompson, assisted by elders Ida Mae Valdez and Lillius Richardson, engaged the audience in a discussion of traditional Paiute plants and their uses. Rosemary Rogers-de Soto presents Paiute horsehair basketweaving on August 7, from 1-4 p.m. accompanied by her father Alfred Rogers, a singer. Finally, Spider Teller demonstrates W. Shoshone saddlemaking on October 9, from 1-4 p.m.. For more information on museum programs or to volunteer, call (775) 687-4810, ext. 237.



—Photo by Newsletter Staff

Master artist, Sue Coleman, presented a dynamic lecture on Washo basketweaving and cultural traditions on Saturday, June 19, at the Nevada State Museum. In the foreground is a large burden basket.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours Can Still Be Arranged

The Nevada State Museum is offering behind-the-scenes tours of its anthropology, and plants and animal collections on Fridays. Advance reservations are required due to limited space. To arrange a tour, call Deborah Stevenson at (775) 687-4810, ext. 237.

The museum actively engages people in understanding Nevada's natural and cultural heritage. The museum collects, preserves, studies and shares this heritage through exhibits, educational programs, publications, and research. Exhibits highlight the state's geology, plants, animals, history, Coin Press No. 1, a replica walk-through mine and ghost town, and the U.S.S. Nevada silver service.

Coming Events

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

August 24—*Dat-So-La-Lee, A Woman's Legacy to Nevada*, by Sue Ann Monteleone, Nevada State Museum Registrar.

September 28—*Jews in Nevada* by John Marschall, Professor Emeritus University of Nevada, Reno.

October 26—*Bats in Nevada*, George Baumgardner, Ph.D., Curator of Natural History, Nevada State Museum.

These programs are part of the Museum's Frances Humphrey evening lecture series held on the Fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. There is no charge for the programs. The Loftin Park entrance on the north side of the museum complex will be used for all programs. For more information call 687-4819, ext. 239.

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NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

August: No program

September 8: *Interesting Trolleys—Unusual Track* by Phil Stevenson.

October 13: *South American Railroads* by David Bell.

Museum's Comings and Goings

Meet the New Museum Store Manager



Leslie "Charmain" Phillips was born and raised in Reno and is proud to be a native Nevadan. As the new Museum Store Manager she is very excited at the prospect of making accessible to our visitors additional information on all aspects of the State of Nevada, from the history and culture to the flora and fauna.

Charmain has an extensive background in sales, fiscal management and customer service. She served for seven years as supervisor for the El Dorado Savings Bank in Gardnerville., and also established a bookkeeping service which she still maintains.

Ms. Phillips wishes to express her appreciation to all of those who have given their moral support in obtaining this position. She has every intention of fulfilling the expectations and sustaining the high standards set by her predecessor and mother, Eleanor Phillips.

Charmain is happy to be a part of the team at the Nevada State Museum. She invites all the members of the staff and volunteers to stop by the store and get acquainted.

Long-time Employee Quits



Roz Works had a retirement party at the museum on June 29 after 13+ years in the museum's anthropology department. Here she is getting retirement advice from State Archivist Guy Rocha.



After an extended run of 13+ years in the museum's anthropology program, administrative assistant, Roz Works, hangs it up for a new role . . . retirement. Roz never failed to entertain us, liven our staid museum experience, and spontaneously break into song and dance. As stated by her manager, Gene Hattori, "Never a dull moment." Roz will go on to tutor grandchildren Ava, Lola, and Gabriel in the performing arts and entertainment. Our fondest wishes to Anthro's star administrative assistant.



Eleanor Phillips retired as Museum Store Manager on April 2, 2004



Bobby Mears retired as a Museum Security Officer on April 30, 2004

12,000 Years Ago In Nevada

In 1883, noted U.S. Geological Survey geologist, Israel C. Russell explored the western part of Nevada to study Pleistocene (Ice Age) Lake Lahontan. His *Geology of Lake Lahontan*, published in 1885, is a masterful work that is used today as a standard reference by geologists. Russell described and mapped a giant lake feature, which today bears his name, Russell Spit. Russell Spit is located just west of US 95 in the Carson Desert at the south end of Lahontan Valley, about 16 miles south of downtown Fallon.

Ancient Lake Lahontan's mighty currents formed this spit from boulders and other sediments during the lake's last rise about 14,000 years ago. Karen Beyers' illustration depicts a receding Lake Lahontan some 1500 years past the maximum, a view that still reflects Pleistocene conditions. Humans are absent from the scene, as we still lack definitive archaeological evidence for human occupation of this region that early. Camels and pelicans represent extinct and surviving Nevada Pleistocene species, respectively. Sagebrush, and Great Basin wild rye are dominant plants that are no longer found at this elevation (4,300 ft.), but they can be found in the region today at higher elevations. Western juniper probably grew in the region during the Ice Age, but today the closest examples are found west of Carson City in the Sierra Nevada. Utah juniper is now the common northern Great Basin juniper. The humble shadscale was present in the Ice Age at this elevation, and it now dominates the vegetation at this site.

Farewell to Former Preparator

On April 10 we all lost one of the finest men I have ever known, James W. Huntington. Jim was an exhibit preparator for the Nevada State Museum from January 1977 to January 1989. During his tenure, he was instrumental in the development of the two horse skeleton articulations (now in storage), the ichthyosaur on the stairwell leading to the earth science gallery, the ghost town and weapons gallery together with dozens of changing gallery shows and elements of the Las Vegas Museum and Historical Society's exhibits.



Jim working on 35,000 year-old Ice Age horse.

Jim grew up in the 1920s-1930s in dust bowl Kansas and among his varied resume it should be noted that he spent over three years as a crew chief on a B-17 bomber flying out of North Africa.

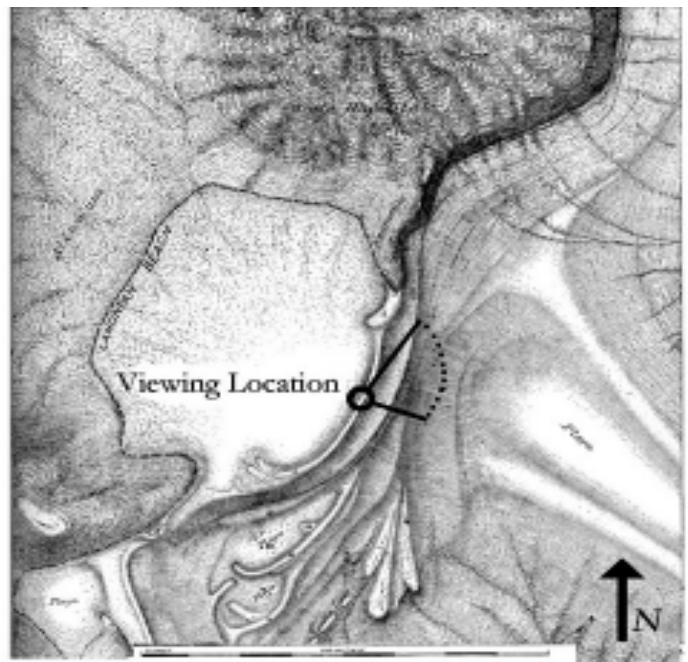
In his retirement, Jim carved Kachina's and restored Ford Model T cars. After his retirement, Jim prepared the faux car now on display in the Museum's History gallery.

I will miss you, Jim. I as your boss, but you were my mentor. Adios, my friend.

—Submitted by Doug Southerland, Director of Exhibits (retired), Nevada State Museum, Carson City, Nevada.



Karen's wonderful illustrations grace the People and the Seasons' display in the *Under One Sky* exhibition. When Karen is not illustrating scenes or artifacts for the Anthropology Program, she is a firefighter for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Karen's landscape illustrations will be used in an *Under One Sky* gallery guide.



Israel C. Russell's 1885 plan map of gravel ridges formed under water by Lake Lahontan currents. Today, this landform is called Russell Spit.

Gowns from Tennille Donated to Textile Center

By JAN LOVERIN

Curator of Textiles and Clothing

The Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center is pleased to announce the acquisition of three entertainment gowns which belonged to singer Toni Tennille. Ms. Tennille and her husband Daryl Dragon, performed for many years as *The Captain and Tennille*. These three gowns, all designed exactly the same, were worn by Ms. Tennille during the 1980s and were designed by Jef Billings of Los Angeles.

Mr. Billings designs are known for being lightweight and very fluid. I asked Ms. Tennille's publicist, Beck Greenlaw, why all three were exactly the same design but in different colors and she replied that when they (Ms. Tennille and her fashion designer) got a design to work, they made up more than one. When Ms. Tennille was doing back to back performances, she could then freshen up and change into a similar but clean garment.

According to UNR Costume Designer Virginia L. Vogel, these garments are made of "cracked ice." Cracked ice is the term for the patterned application of glitter throughout the fabric. Cracked ice can be applied to silks, satins, knits, and synthetics. In this case, the cracked ice has been applied to jersey, which allows for the costumes to drape on the figure. In the photograph, the two gowns on the left feature the front of the gowns and the one on the right features the deep cut of the back and the rhinestone closure.

The textile center has been actively searching for entertainment costumes which have been worn here in Nevada. We have a sizeable collection of costumes from *Hello Hollywood Hello*, the grand floor show which ran at the MGM (then Bally's, now the Hilton) for 11 years. However, we have not had a donation from an individual performer. So it is a great coup to have received our first entertainment costumes from Nevadan Toni Tennille. And, yes, I have actually requested that the Captain donate one of his caps as well!

Message From the Museum Director, Jim Barmore

Members of the Friends of the Nevada State Museum support the museum's educational mission in many ways. They work in most areas of museum operations, contributing time, talents and expertise. Sometimes they perform critical services which could not exist without volunteer help. I thank our Friends for their work and dedication. They are a special group of people!

I am committed to the success of the Friends organization, now and in the future. The museum relies on members to maintain current services. The museum needs a strong Friends for future development. I believe the success of Friends is a measure of the museum's success. The organization is a reflection of the museum's community support.

I look forward to helping the Friends grow and to maintaining the special partnership between the Friends and museum. We all believe in our mission of educating and celebrating Nevada's heritage. We all want a common vision, meaningful purpose, high standards, and to enjoy working together. I'm excited about working with all of you, building upon our common goals, and making a good thing even better.



Three gowns from the Toni Tennille collection donated to the Textile Center are made of "cracked ice." Gowns were made alike so that between performances they could be exchanged for a fresh garment.

The New Nevada State Quarter

Residents are being encouraged to offer themes that are symbolic to the state to appear on the Nevada quarter to be minted by the U.S. Mint.

State Treasurer Brian Krolicki is head of an advisory committee that will select the coin. Once themes are submitted, the mint will use them to design three to five different coins and submit them back to the state for a final decision.

The Nevada coin will be released in January 2006.

Suggestions for the theme must be presented to Krolicki's office by September 1. The suggested theme by a resident must include a brief description of how it is significant to Nevada. For more information on the Nevada quarters project see the State Treasurer website at www.Nevadatreasurer.com.

Now — Go back to Page 1
and read again about the two
wonderful Coming Events